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HALIBURTON COUNTY'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

# The Highlander

**FREE**

Thursday **March 13 2014** | Issue 125

**INSIDE: HALIBURTON'S MATTHEW PHEATON WRESTLES AT OFSAA - SEE PAGE 16**



Photo by Sue Tiffin

Highland Storm Atom A team members Dylan Keefer, Cole Prentice, and Tim Turner are helping to raise funds for breast cancer research and awareness by dyeing their hair pink and accessorizing their hockey sticks with pink tape. See story on page 17.

## Ashall challenges Murdoch for Minden deputy

By Sue Tiffin  
Staff writer

Cheryl Murdoch wasn't aware that Rick Ashall had filed his nomination for deputy-reeve last week in Minden Hills, but the incumbent felt she could hold her position.

"I'm not nervous," said Murdoch, who is currently on her third council after 11 years of service. "Let's put it this way, I've been around long enough. I'll either win or I won't. It's that simple."

Murdoch said she continues to enjoy the deputy-reeve position and feels that she is well-suited for it. She can list off a number of accomplishments that she said happened during her first two terms of council, including the construction of the art gallery, the library, the Riverwalk, Canadian Tire, and Dairy Queen.

"This council basically saw the fruits of the labour of the two previous councils," she said.

If elected for a fourth term, Murdoch said she wants to see continued progress

in Minden, including more work in the downtown area, and an expansion of the Riverwalk to Rotary beach. She also hopes to see local and seasonal residents working together.

"I think the people that live here full-time and the seasonal people should get together and try to solve some of the problems that exist around our waterways and rivers and lakes," she said. "Instead of 'us and them,' it should be us working together."

A former member of the legion and curling

club, Murdoch continues to support service clubs, but is busy with committees including the planning committee, protective services committee, and museum committee. She also has five grandchildren. The oldest is 22, and the youngest is three-and-a-half months old.

"I guess my slogan is, 'I still care very deeply about Minden Hills and the people who live here,'" she said. "I offer my services and my experience, and I'll work very hard to make sure it happens. But if it doesn't, so be it. It's the way it is."

See "New" on page 2

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## New entrant livens up Minden council race

Continued from page 1

Murdoch's competition, Rick Ashall, joined the race on March 4.

"I'm very busy, but I seem to enjoy it that way," said Ashall, who is the president of the Haliburton Curling Club, member of the finance advisory committee, chair of the Haliburton County Development Corporation, and a director on the Eastern Ontario community future organization. He also has five grandchildren with a sixth on the way.

Ashall spent time on 12-Mile Lake as a boy, and retired there with his wife Jan in 2004 after being a cottager in the area. He feels that with his background experience as a senior executive at London Life and Manulife, and as a management consultant, he is able to make a significant contribution to the township.

"My wife and I are part of the community," said Ashall. "I have the energy, the focus, the commitment to make a difference, and I feel I can make a significant contribution to council."

"My career required a lot of focus, a lot of working with teams, with handling conflicts, and with handling

change effectively," said Ashall. "Those are skills that I think I have developed over many years. A council is not that different. You're faced with making and supporting decisions that are financially and fiscally responsible, with overseeing the results, and ultimately making a difference to your constituents."

Ashall said that he put great consideration into running for council, knowing the commitment that public office takes. He believes the deputy-reeve position currently held by Murdoch is something he is well suited for, and he has his family's support.

"You run on the basis of thinking you can make the commitment, knowing you want to make the contribution, and considering how best you can contribute," he said.

Ashall said he understands the challenges that Minden Hills currently faces and might face in the future, citing last years flood, the OPP billing model issue, and swimming pool initiative as areas that he is interested in. He also thinks he can bring value to the management of information technology, cell coverage, Internet access, and broadband for the economic development of the community.

## Stanhope seeking Heritage Day coordinator

By Mark Arike  
 Staff writer

With the clock ticking, the Township of Algonquin Highlands is going to hire a coordinator to organize one of the community's largest annual events – Stanhope Heritage Day.

During a March 6 regular council meeting, Reeve Carol Moffatt told councillors that the township's recreation programming supervisor would be unable to take on the job because she recently broke her wrist.

"We had decided, at one of our last budget chats, that maybe Melissa [Alfano] would be asked if she could take that on," said Moffatt. "Melissa has fallen and broken her wrist, as you know, and will be out for eight weeks."

Moffatt said that at this time the event is "really getting under the gun."

"It's March and demonstrators should have been contacted eight weeks ago."

The one-day event is held on the grounds of the Stanhope Museum in July and features a variety of displays, live entertainment and activities for those of all ages. Last year, over 700 people attended the event.

Historically, a volunteer has always organized the event with the assistance of the museum committee.

Deputy-reeve Liz Danielsen said the township can't afford to lose an event of this magnitude.

"To me, this is the biggest cultural event that we have," she said.

Councillor Gord Henderson suggested the possibility of making Mark Coleman, the township's parks, recreation and trails manager, the person in charge of overseeing the event and whoever fills the coordinator position.

"He, obviously, is no more familiar with coordinating this event than the person who's coming on," pointed out CAO Angie Bird. "So he wouldn't be able to provide that direction."

Henderson said that because of Coleman's experience with funding applications, it would be nice to tap into that knowledge for future events.

Moffatt said the selected candidate would need to possess a few key qualities.

"They have to have some experience, they have to know the community, they have to work with the [museum] committee, and they have to be extremely computer savvy."

Council passed a resolution directing staff to advertise for a coordinator and pay the chosen candidate up to \$2,500 in wages.

Moffatt told The Highlander it is anticipated that Alfano will take on the coordinator role next year.

## Barry, Kyle and Danielsen to run

By Mark Arike

Three members of Algonquin Highlands council have filed their nomination papers for the 2014 municipal election.

As of March 11, current Ward 2 councillor Lisa Barry and Ward 3 councillor Marlene Kyle had thrown their hats in the ring for the same seats while deputy-reeve Liz Danielsen filed for councillor in Ward 2.

Algonquin Highlands has two Ward 2 positions, representing the geographic Township of Stanhope. Similar to Highlands East, councillors elect their deputy-reeve after the election.

"It will be my hope to be able to continue in that position," said Danielsen, referring to her role as deputy reeve.

Ward 1 councillor Gord Henderson has advised the township that he won't be seeking re-election.

"I've enjoyed my four years there, but I need to move on to do other things," he said.

The nomination period closes on Sept. 12 of this year. Voting day is on Oct. 27 and will be conducted using the vote-by-mail system.

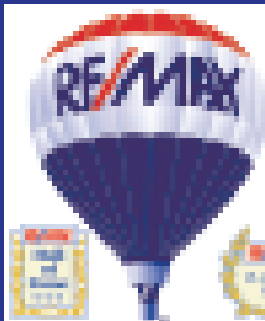
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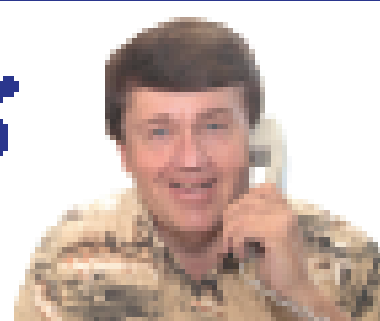


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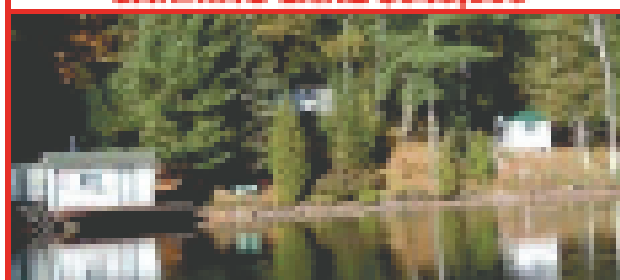
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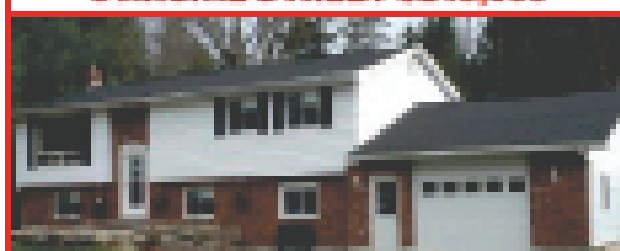
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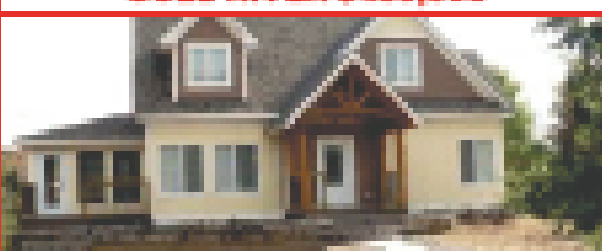
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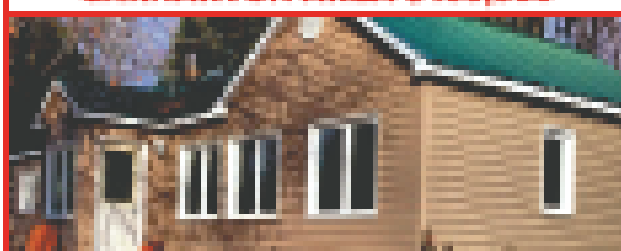
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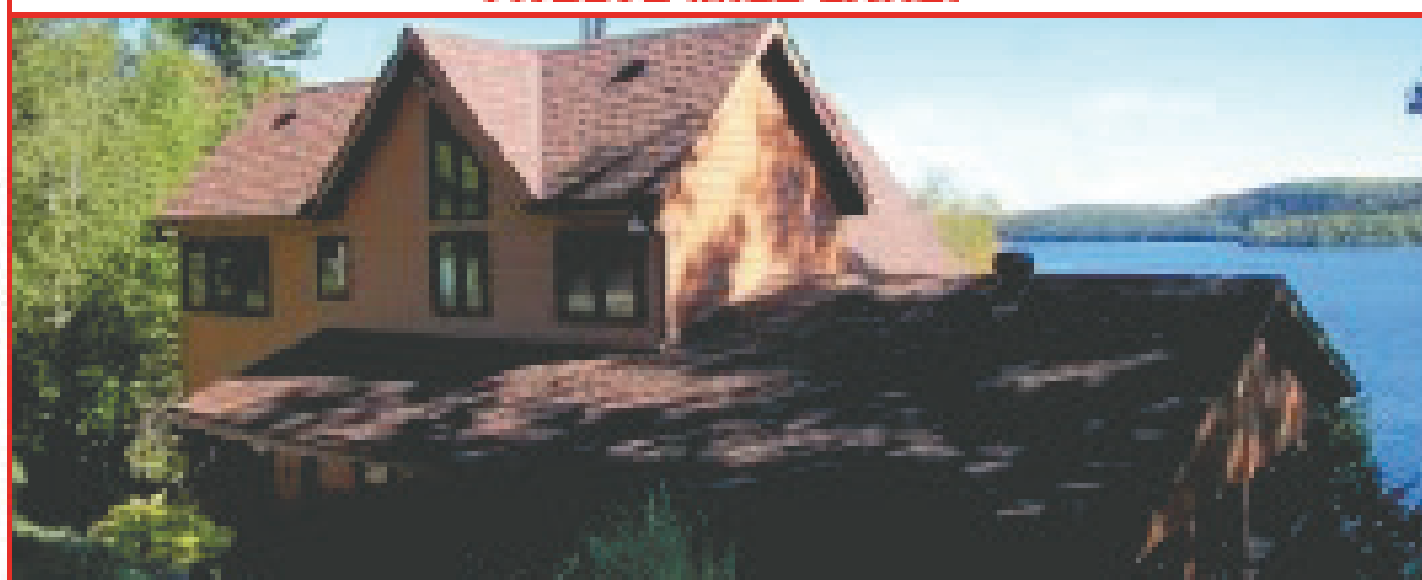
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# Editorial opinion

## Working full term

We are almost three months into the election year, and already I'm starting to get flashbacks.

You see, I spent three years working for a big corporation. You know what I learned in that time?

If you want to get ahead in that world, you'd better keep your head down.

Corporate types, as much as they say otherwise, don't want free-thinking, motivated employees. They want yes men and women to sit in their cubicles and neutrally maintain the status quo. Those who aspire to more and take their heads out of the sand tend not to last too long.

That's why, when you call customer service providers for example, you run into a big wall of policies and procedures that stall you at every turn. The representative who goes out of the way to actually help – sometimes by circumventing said policies – quickly loses his or her job. Heaven forbid you actually receive customer service when you need it.

But the representative who stonewalls you every step of the way will be up for a juicy promotion in no time, flat.

So why the flashbacks? Because these same trends exist in our political system, and they deprive us of quality governance.

Once January 1 hit and the election year began, something happened and politicians turned into call centre workers, ducking and diving from their taskmasters – those would-be voters – who are looking for any excuse to drop the axe.

And that's true. Voters do that. They'll take one decision – often the most recent or controversial – and use that to swing their vote one way or the other. But that's par for the course. It's politics.

What it's not is an excuse to check out

for a year, trying to protect your seat.

Our municipal leaders are put into place for four-year terms, not three years of governance and one of campaigning. You can't choose to avoid a problem, to save your seat and make it next council's issue to deal with down the road. Leaders are elected to lead, for the betterment of their constituents and communities. Nowhere does it say a reeve or councillor's duty is to get re-elected.

Take the Armatec situation as a prime example. Here is a controversial issue that has made many voters loud and angry. If Dysart councillors want to be re-elected, it would be wise to vote it down come the end of the month. But you have to wonder if, had Armatec made its proposal a year or two ago, the whole thing wouldn't have just been rubber stamped.

I'm not saying it would have, but it makes you think. What kind of leadership are we getting this year?

The truth is, there are many issues facing the Highlands today. Armatec is one of several, some of which you won't hear talked about unless local media force the issue.

We need our leaders to be bold and fearless, and to continue to lead throughout the election year, because we can't afford for them to take the year off for campaigning. If they got into municipal politics just to sit in power year after year, that's the wrong reason. But if it was to make a change and lead us to a better place, then now is the time.

That's the kind of leader who will get my vote.



By Matthew Desrosiers

## Bombs, beetles and bees

*Someone's sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago.*

— Warren Buffett

Let's be honest: if we were to make a list of the types of businesses we'd like to have in Haliburton County, a military testing site probably wouldn't be on it. Bomb blasts don't exactly go with the lakes and trees theme currently at the heart of county's brand renaissance, the same theme responsible for most of our tourism and cottaging, in other words most of our private sector economy. A bomb-testing site is what marketing types might call *off-message*.

Yet those watching the fracas carefully would likely conclude that, were it not for the hundreds of angry people protesting at public meetings, Dysart council would have very much liked to have approved the project. And who knows, on March 24 they may buck the committee's recommendation and do exactly that.

The reason is simple: jobs. As noted on this page previously, the five jobs proposed by Armatec would represent a meaningful increase to our active labour force, a pool in which just one in five of us work year-round, full time. Those jobs have spin-off effects in the goods and services required by the families of the people who work them, and would add millions of dollars in local economic activity over the years.

Even so, there are many in the county who don't want Armatec. From our reporting it's clear that most objectors live or own property near the site. You can call them NIMBYs or selfish but, in their shoes, most of us would probably feel the same way. Property is the most important asset for most people and property values don't always count the number of blasts per year before deciding how much they'll fall.

So the real question is, why is Dysart council so keen for those five jobs that it would even contemplate upsetting such large numbers of constituents, otherwise known as voters, in an election year? Are we that desperate for economic growth that we'll take whatever we can get?

Apparently we are. So desperate that another strip plaza – a form of retail now almost universally recognized by town planners to be a kiss of death to main streets – is being seriously considered in Minden, because it's an "investment". So desperate that if councils could dance, Dysart's would have done a jig when a chain coffee shop finally decided to grace us with its low-wage presence.

How did we get here?

To answer that question, I'd like to introduce you to *Dermestes carnivora*, otherwise known as the guano beetle.

The guano beetle spends its entire life at the bottom of a bat cave. Its sole source of

food is the bats above: dead bats and bat shit. Because the beetles never venture out of the cave, the only chance they have to survive is to wait on the floor of the cave for something to fall. There could be a delicious grove of beetle-fruit just outside, but the beetles would never find it because they never venture beyond the cave.

That's us. We are Ontario's economic guano beetles, waiting on the floor of our cave for whatever falls on our heads, grateful for it because it's all we've got. That may sound pessimistic, but it's so easy to fix by emulating another insect, the bee.

Bees are highly organized, sending out scouts to find nectar and workers to bring it home. There, it gets made into honey for storage and food for the young, all inside a beautiful, strong structure that's built according to genetically-encoded blueprints and serves all of the bees' needs. Because they explore and build their own environment, the bees can choose the best and most productive flowers and not waste their time on whatever detritus happens to fall on the hive.

You get the point. To use another metaphor, an untended garden grows nothing but weeds. Anyone who says otherwise is being disingenuous.

Economic growth happens when four elements combine: skilled labour, capital, management ability and entrepreneurship. We have all of those things, though to be fair we could certainly nurture each to grow faster and more fully. And, in our cottager residents and neighbours to the south we have entire fields of flowers to explore for more of each element. It may not traditionally be the role of municipal governments to facilitate these pieces coming together, but they, more than any business or non-profit, are ultimately the stewards of our economy. By default, if you will, it is they who must lead us out of our cave.

As I continually come across high-end computer bags made in Germany, wooden cell phone cases made in Minnesota or flat-pack cabins made in California, not to mention the small businesses popping up all the time in the Highlands, the claims we cannot have manufacturing or do anything in the nature of value-adding, high-wage business sound more and more like meek excuses from beetles who are afraid to leave the comfort zone of the cave. True, Canada has lost the fight to produce cheap stuff, but so what? It's not the 20<sup>th</sup> century anymore. Quality is a much more lucrative, long-term strategy that also happens to play to our strengths while offering a way out of these desperate straits.

Beetle or bee? It's not even a question.



By Bram Lebo

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<b>BRAM LEBO</b> Publisher bram@haliburtonhighlander.ca	<b>MATTHEW DESROSIER</b> Editor matthew@haliburtonhighlander.ca		
<b>ASHLEY CAMPBELL</b> Office Manager ashley@haliburtonhighlander.ca	<b>HEATHER KENNEDY</b> Production Manager heather@haliburtonhighlander.ca		
<b>MARK ARIKE</b> Staff Writer mark@haliburtonhighlander.ca	<b>SUE TIFFIN</b> Staff Writer sue@haliburtonhighlander.ca		
<b>WALT GRIFFIN</b> Sales Manager walt@haliburtonhighlander.ca	<b>CHERYL MCCOMBE</b> Business Development cheryl@haliburtonhighlander.ca		
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# Letters to the editor

## Bet you won't print this

Dear editor,

I am writing to you – I know that you won't put this in the paper because it is clear you support Armatec.

I will explain further why I do not support military testing in Haliburton County, in Canada, or anywhere in the world. We have learned from accidents like Fukushima and the Gulf oil spill that the whole world is our backyard. Whatever is not good for one person is not good for anybody.

Military testing has always been in "depressed" areas and amongst indigenous peoples who have been marginalized by the global financial system. People do not say anything when bad things are happening to people that have been denigrated. What we do not realize is that the Highlands have now been downgraded to an area that will accept degradation to their environment because they don't have the jobs and money.

How about a future vision that we keep our pristine land and save it for future generations that will be looking for land in the future? How about if every single person said "no

weapons testing here." Where would the military go then?

Impossible, you say? The truth is, if we don't care about others than who is going to care about what happens to us? The tanks may be rolling in Afghanistan and Iraq right now, and the drones flying overhead, but what if the US wants our resources and people start saying no? Is it far-fetched that the tanks could be rolling here or the drones flying overhead?

The globe is becoming smaller and smaller. Land that can be degraded is growing scarcer. Our future is not looking very bright if we continue on this path. I still say no to any military testing on the planet. Many people in our community are planting orchards, gardens, and flowers to attract the bees and develop Haliburton County into a place to live and grow. And how exactly does military testing fit in with this picture/vision? We can't have both war and peace. What do you choose for your future?

**Darlene Buckingham  
Tory Hill**

## Photo of the week



Photo by Mark Arike

A beaver sculpture stands guard in Head Lake Park.

## Tourism isn't the only engine of growth in the Highlands

Dear editor,

NIMBY was used in both your balanced editorial last week, and in Keith Stata's letter. Though I didn't use that word, it was certainly on my mind as well.

Mr. Stata took things further in wondering what if our generation had not allowed the development that's already taken place (i.e: cottages on lakeshore lots, etc.)? This reminded me of another phrase that isn't perhaps so well known, but its intent is certainly commonly expressed. "They want

their lot to be the last one sold on the lake."

We hear people say things like: "we don't want anything to change, we want everything here to stay just like it is now." It looks like this may indeed be the case. People don't want asphalt plants (but do want good highways), they don't want mining exploration, and they don't care about any studies or assessments that Armatec has or is providing. They don't care about the facts. They want the life they want, regardless of anyone or anything else.

Will any further development ever gain

acceptance? What type of business or industry would it take to meet approval, when people don't even want to hear more trucks going down our roads? I heard one man at the Armatec presentation in Harcourt angrily proclaim that he didn't want to hear the noise of 'a tractor' when he was sitting on his dock (presumably only the noise his household makes is all right).

As a local business person recently commented, if everything that is proposed continues to be blocked, do they realize that eventually there may be no services left in this

area? How happy will visitors and cottagers be when they have to travel greater distances to buy gas, groceries and other necessities because those businesses could not sustain operating here?

Perhaps it's time to rethink the idea that tourism is the answer to this area's economic problems. How has it worked so far for the businesses and people dependent on it?

**Janet Barker  
Wilberforce**

## Well seasoned

Dare I say that I think spring has sprung, finally?

I don't want to jinx it and be blamed for the mercury taking another dive into the double-digit minuses. It's just that as I sit here at my desk I see blue skies and bright sunlight, and accompanying this glorious duo is the musical sound of the melt. The drip drip of water is joined by a gurgle and a splash as the thaw begins and oh how wonderful it sounds.

This is not to say that I haven't enjoyed winter, because I have. I love tramping through deep snow, watching Little Z and my lovely wife slaloming down the hills at Sir Sam's, and taking to the ice for a spot of hole drilling – most folks call it ice fishing but I seem to drill more holes than I catch fish, hence my take on the name. But hey, there comes a time when a man wants winter to be done, through, finito. For this man, that time is now. I'm looking forward to seeing the pale squished grass of my backyard, to being able to nip out to the village without having to warm the car up 10 minutes before I leave, and to not wearing my snow boots everywhere I go.

I don't think that I have cabin fever; at least there has been no official diagnosis. I'm not quite that desperate for winter's demise. I'm not clawing at the walls or sticking pins in little voodoo dolls of snowmen, but this winter has been a long hard one, the hardest in living memory, I'd say. Well, my memory at any rate. Keep in mind that worst winters in England tend to be akin to a miserable day in late October in Haliburton. You know, one of those days when it's windy and rainy at the same time, and rather chilly, too. One of those days when you wish you'd worn your big coat but it's still packed away in the closet.

That said, I can fall back on my experience of Canadian winters. I've been around for a while now, you know, relatively speaking (ask Little Z and he'll say we've been here 'forever!'), and I can talk wild winter weather with anyone who doesn't mind limiting the conversation to the past four years. So, with this in mind, I state that this winter has been a long hard one!

Am I wrong?  
No, I'm not.

I'm confident in my pronouncement because I've been listening to you folks for a good while now, eavesdropping on your grumblings enough to realize that I've lived through quite a harsh winter. I've survived the cold spells and waded through the giant snowdrifts. I've only put the car in a ditch once and my wood is yet to run out.

The reason that my wood hasn't run out is because I don't have a wood-burning stove and, as such, my woodpile has remained healthily intact throughout winter. My bank account, on the other hand, has taken a severe beating from Hydro One, and it is probably looking as pitiful as many of your woodpiles.

But spring has sprung, hasn't it... almost. Please. It feels so warm today, relatively speaking at least. It feels almost balmy as the thermometer reads a heady two degrees Celsius. I say this to my mum when she calls from England and the thought of the temperature so close to zero sends a shiver down her spine and an audible 'brrrr' down the phone line.

"But mum, it's warm, it's sunny, it's

almost spring," I say, trying to put everything in perspective.

"Ooo! I don't know how you survive," she retorts, and I smile to myself as I think back to last week's 'minus 25 before wind chill.'

I'm no macho man, though, even if I do ramp up the stories a little bit when recounting our winter weather to my English family. Trust me, I'm wishing on the arrival of spring just as much as the next man, woman, and child in Haliburton.

Oh for those longer days, those warm rays of sun, that gentle blossoming of the world all around us.

Oh for the slush-filled roads, the flooded driveway, the mud, the muck, and the blustery rain filled days of April...

Hmm, a couple of weeks of that and I'll be wishing that summer would arrive. But then there'll be the bugs to contend with. Fall, now there's a season that I really like, and, after fall, I think I like winter second best.

But spring has almost sprung, damn it!

## The Outsider



By Will Jones



# Highlander opinion

## Eye on the street: What are you going to do during the March Break?



**Aaron & Aiden Jakurs**

Age 8  
Haliburton

Aaron: I don't know what we're going to do. My mom is going duck hunting.

Aiden: I wanted to go to Disneyland!

**Ariel Weiss**

Age 15  
Minden

I'm hanging out with my friends and skating.



**Noah Dollo**

Age 15  
Minden

I'll be playing hockey, and I'm going to hunting camp for the week with my dad and all his buddies.

**Ryanne Horsley**

Age 9  
Haliburton

I'm going to spend time with my family, skate, and go skiing.



**Wyatt Raposo**

Age 6  
Minden

I forget, but... I don't know. I'm doing the camp thing.

*Photos and interviews by Sue Tiffin*

## A few detonations nothing next to uranium mines and other noises

*Dear editor,*

A quote by Wayne Dyer, an American self-help author: "The highest form of ignorance is when you reject something you don't know anything about."

From the letters about the meetings on the subject of Armatec, this seems to be the case. Armatec has come into our county stating there will be minimal noise or disruption, with 30 muffled explosions per year. They are offering jobs and money spent in the area by personnel and contractors.

The people in the cottages see this as something way out of proportion. War type explosions rattling window, breaking their peace and quiet, scaring every animal for miles away, and tanks roaming the roads. Oh, the apocalypse is here folks. They rolled into these meetings stating that everyone was against this venture. Even a petition, signed by some people outside the county? These summer cottagers will not believe anything they are told about this project. What the full-time residents know, however, is that five to 15 jobs means those families just might make it through the winter, pay the heat, take them away from possible welfare and the food bank.

This is not a scary venture or even a noisy one. The open pit uranium mining that was coming to Highlands East? Now that was scary, and still is. That was cause to storm Parliament, because it was at the least an infringement of peoples land, and at the

most was capable of killing a good number of residents with cancer, being as it was over the water shed and beside the Irondale River. Mining is still allowed on government land, right beside residents. In this case, the employees would not be working in the mines and may just have a decent life. Who are you, a part-time resident, to tell him or her you don't care.

So you think a few detonations will be unbearable? I have sat on a deck on Little Glamour Lake and listened to the incessant pounding to prepare the base for a new cottage and also the trucks and tractors. Then the saws and hammers. Strange the deer and loons just ignored it. They must be deaf.

In the winter I hear the pleasant sounds of snowmobiles and plows. During summer, I like to get out and listen to the moto-cross bikes, the regular bikes with modified or no mufflers, the ATVs, the pickups with hollywood mufflers, the chain saws cutting wood for sale or personal use. Oh, and we also have fireworks set off for any old reason. At night time I especially enjoy waking up to the mournful cry of deer hounds.

Tell you what. I'll trade you my house for your cottage and put up with the occasional explosion. Methinks thou dost protest too much. And be sure you write to our Legion Magazine, tell them your NIMBY thoughts on an exercise designed to save their lives.

**Ted Cumber  
Gooderham**

## Test site in our best interests

*Dear editor,*

It became abundantly clear, at least to me, after Monday's zoning committee meeting at the Haliburton Legion (March 3), that the present Dysart et al township council is not the least bit interested in three things for sure: job creation for the benefit of township tax payers, doing everything they can to help save the lives of Canadian soldiers in combat, and a significant increase in tax revenue for municipal coffers.

I'm having trouble getting my head around this. The zoning committee had a chance to accommodate Armatec's request. Armatec guaranteed at the meeting 5-15 jobs for the area's local population (how many jobs were lost in Harcourt when Martins Mill shut down?) not including construction jobs and spin-offs (hotel, meals, supplies) once underway. Dysart's planning committee voted, unanimously, to recommend to council they not approve this zoning change, thus killing these jobs locally.

The people opposed to this lost any shred of their credibility after their rude, ignorant, juvenile, and hooligan behavior at the information meeting held in Harcourt previously. They used every tactic they could, including lies, gross exaggerations, and worse, in an attempt to bully the town council into turning this down, when in fact, they haven't a clue what they are talking about.

As I said at the meeting, this township council's model of the local population being allowed to make a living as long as nobody can hear us or see us is clearly unsustainable and has been for some time. It

is, at best, grossly unfair to present and future generations of young Haliburtonians who have to face the future having to go away to find work, take a menial low paying seasonal job, or go on welfare.

The business being proposed for this site is exactly what any rural township could want. It is a clean, safe, environmentally friendly facility whose industry is regulated to death by all three levels of government, including the RCMP. It's creating new jobs, spending money locally, and supporting the community.

Regardless of the opinion of the Benoir Lake et al Hooligan Society, it is in the best interest of the whole township for council to approve this application. It is a no-brainer.

The time has long gone by where this council and previous councils have been bullied into turning down these types of permanent, good paying, long-term, full-time jobs for any reason. The net effect of that is that they have, at best, caused a total stagnation of the local year-round economy, the emptying of the community of most of our young people forced to find work elsewhere, and at worst, ruining the long-term future economy for everyone in the township.

I, for one, am sick to death of this mentality. Council, I urge you to try something new, radical, and off the wall here. Vote to create jobs for a change. Let the opponents of this take it to the OMB. Let them pay the costs. All it will take is for the OMB to hear the tape of the Harcourt meeting and it will be a done deal for Armatec.

**Tim Casey  
Haliburton County**

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# Highlander news



Photo by Sue Tiffin

Water levels across the Trent-Severn Waterway are being watched closely as the spring thaw looms around the corner.

## Communication is focus of Minden, county's flood preparation efforts

By Sue Tiffin  
Staff writer

Elected officials and the EMS director are joining forces to ensure spring thaw communication is clear and timely in advance of potential flooding.

Craig Jones, emergency services (EMS) director, has designed a website to inform the community about potential flooding and how to handle emergency situations.

Jones met with county council on March 11 to propose his idea. He said he put a lot of effort into the site, which includes tips on how to prepare for flooding, tips to plan for pets and prepare medications in an emergency, and checklists to help residents get organized.

"I feel open, honest, proactive communication benefits everyone," said Jones prior to the meeting. "With the potential for a wet spring, I feel it's important to put information out for those who want or need it. This way, we can ensure the residents of our community are prepared."

Minden Hills Reeve Barb Reid said it's the responsibility of the Trent-Severn Waterway (TSW) to manage the system, and the responsibility of the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) to disseminate information about potential flooding.

"We can't make the water go away," said Reid in a Feb. 13 council meeting. "If the dams are open, everything that can be done is being done."

Reid said that the municipality is doing what it can to promote communication between those that manage and track the water levels so that the community can be prepared in the event of flooding.

"Minden Hills has absolutely nothing to do with dam operations," she said.

Reid appeared on a CTV News Barrie broadcast on March 10 in which she reiterated that the TSW should monitor the water levels, and that she feels they have already been opening dams to reduce the water levels of the Gull River.

Reid met Environment Minister Leona Aglukkak in Ottawa on March 6, along with

MP Barry Devolin and Minden Hills chief administrative officer Nancy Wright-Laking, to request that Parks Canada be aware of the community's concerns.

"We wanted to make sure that she knew that our community is on edge and anxious about what's going to happen this year," said Reid. "Nobody knows for sure what the conditions are going to be."

She also met with Minister of Natural Resources David Orazietti to ask that the MNR initiate communication with the municipality quickly in advance of a flood so that residents can have more than 24 hours warning.

"We want to reassure the community that their local elected officials are talking about Minden at the provincial and federal level, to make sure that people are thinking about Minden this spring," said Reid.

Minden Hills fire chief Doug Schell has been updating council members regularly about water levels and warnings. In a Feb. 13 council meeting, he said he had driven around to monitor water levels himself, and that it appeared most of the water levels were low.

"Is there going to be flooding in Minden? For the last 40-something years I've lived here, there's always flooding in Minden," said Schell. "It's just hopefully not like last year. Hopefully we're prepared for this year."

Algonquin Highlands Reeve Carol Moffatt said that although Minden Hills was most devastated by the 2013 flooding, she knows of her own constituents who were emptying water from their basement last year.

Moffatt is on a working group and said that though the group's efforts won't be able to satisfy those who are worried about flooding or angry about last year's flooding, and won't be able to stop flooding, it is working toward better communication for the public in order to move forward.

"We're not going to be able to stop flooding," said Moffatt. "We need better and more useful streamlined information."

Moffatt has been a vocal advocate for public education about water systems management and flood preparation. She uses social media

to alert the public about updates, and stresses the importance of residents connecting with the numerous websites available for public information about water levels and flood warnings.

For those who don't or can't access the Internet, flood preparation kits are available at the Minden Hills municipal office, and sand and sand bags are available should the river begin to flood.

"Once the water's up, there's very little anyone can do," said Reid. "If there is a lot of water coming through the system, the TSW has to open dams sooner rather than later."

According to the TSW, water content in the Gull River system's snowpack is slightly above average as of March 7, but this is not unusual for this time of year.

As of press time, TSW representatives have not responded to The Highlander's requests for further comment.

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# INFORMATION PAGE

7 Milne Street, PO Box 359  
Minden ON K0M 2K0

Telephone: 705-286-1260  
Fax: 705-286-4917 [www.mindenhills.ca](http://www.mindenhills.ca)

**In case of emergency please Dial 9-1-1. For all other municipal emergencies please call 1-866-856-3247**

## Meetings and Events

### **March 13**

9:00 am, CoTW meeting,  
Minden Council Chambers

### **March 15**

St. Patrick's Day Dinner at the  
Lochlin Community Centre.  
\$12/adults, \$6/kids under 12  
and children under 4 are FREE.  
5:00 pm or 6:30 pm seating available.  
Call 705-286-6087 or  
705-286-3438 to make a reservation.

### **March 27**

9:00 am, Regular meeting of Council,  
Minden Council Chambers  
(10:00 am public session)

7:00 pm, Irondale Community Centre  
Advisory Committee meeting,  
Irondale Community Centre

## Public Reminder Notice

### **Spring Melt**

Spring time is approaching and flooding is a potential seasonal risk in our Minden Hills area due to rain fall, snow thaw or major storms.

Public reminder notices will be posted regularly to keep you up-to-date on the resources you may require.

Please visit our new website at [www.mindenhills.ca](http://www.mindenhills.ca), for all up-to-date and accurate information to assist you in preparing for the immediate measures before they are required.

The Municipality will continue to communicate all information by means of media broadcasting, media releases to radio stations and local newspapers and on [www.mindenhills.ca](http://www.mindenhills.ca)

Please visit the municipality at 7 Milne Street, 2nd floor for information.



MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE  
Agnes Jamieson Gallery ~ Minden Hills Museum & Pioneer  
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## **EXHIBITIONS**

### **Function vs Expression**

March 4 to May 17, 2014

Curated by Laurie Carmount

Artists: Terry Craig and Jenn Wanless-Craig,  
April Gates & Sandra Dunn

"Function vs Expression" is an exhibition inviting dialogue about craft and fine art. Called "Function" to connote craft and "Expression" to suggest fine art, the title is leading and opens the door to preconceived notions some may have about the two aspects. Terminology and classification is meant to clarify and distinguish. Though fine art has had a steady course of understanding, craft has been pushed and pulled about in attempts to describe handmade items. It gets tricky when one looks closer at these descriptions. Artists who work in a traditional craft sometimes begrudge the word 'craft' sensitive to potential inferiority to fine art for instance. Why, is the question—something explored in the artists' statements. Terry and Jenn live in Tory Hill and have been operating Artech studios glassblowing for many years. April Gates of Blackbird Pottery, balancing on the cusp of fine art and craft, Blackbird Pottery unites the spirit and usefulness of handcrafted work to intrigue, inspire and engage its patrons. Sandra Dunn owns and operates Two Smiths that works primarily with metal - steel, wrought iron, copper, aluminum, stainless steel and bronze.

## **NATURE'S PLACE**

### **More with Less: Creative Use in a World of Excess**

Now Showing More with Less: Creative Use in a World of Excess is an exhibit dedicated to exploring what it means to reduce, reuse, and recycle by highlighting some of the boundary pushing philosophies, lifestyles, and projects from around the globe that are finding creative uses for our cast off goods. It asks us to rethink how we interact with our environment and hopes to inspire us to find new ways to do more with less.

**See page 23 for additional ad**

## Important Tax Information

The 2014 Interim tax bills were mailed on Feb 28, 2014. This bill represents 50% of the total annualized taxes for 2013. The due dates are Mar 21 and May 16. If you have not received your bill(s) prior to the March due date, please contact our office.

The final residential tax bill is anticipated to be mailed sometime in late June and will be payable in two installments; July 18 and Sept 19, 2014. This bill will be calculated using the 2014 assessment multiplied by the 2014 applicable tax rate(s), less the interim billing amount.

Property owners are responsible to provide to the Municipal Office written notification of any address change.

Failure to receive your tax bill does not exempt penalty charges from being applied to a tax account.

For information on payment options and procedures, please visit [www.mindenhills.ca](http://www.mindenhills.ca).

## Township of Minden Hills Youth Softball

### **Registration Dates**

At the Minden Community Centre, room 3

Monday April 7 1:00 - 5:00 pm

Tuesday April 8 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Thursday April 10 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Friday April 11 1:00 - 5:00 pm

Registration closes April 30, 2014

### **Cost \$35.00 per player**

Games are played on Monday nights

(NOTE: There will be no ball on July 14 and August 4)

Season opening: June 2

Final game: August 11

Children must be 3-13 years of age in order to play

### **Divisions**

(Based on your child's year of birth.

All divisions are Co-Ed.)

Jr. Blastballers (t-ball) 2010 - 2011

Blastballers (t-ball) 2008 - 2009

Mites (3 pitch) 2006 - 2007

Atoms (3 pitch) 2004 - 2005

Pee Wee (3 pitch) 2001 - 2003

### **Coaches/Sponsors Needed!**

If you are interested in coaching or sponsoring a team, please contact Elisha Weiss at 705-286-2298 or [eweiss@mindenhills.ca](mailto:eweiss@mindenhills.ca) to find out how!

## Public Skating

Is every Sunday and Wednesday at the

S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena from

12 Noon to 2 pm

Helmets are recommended

Please call 705-286-1936 for details and scheduling updates

### **Ice Rentals & Room Bookings**

To arrange for an ice rental or booking room

at the Community Centre, please

call 705-286-1936 ext: 200


Monday to Friday

8:30am - 4:30pm

Or email [communityservicesbookings@mindenhills.ca](mailto:communityservicesbookings@mindenhills.ca)



# Highlander business

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, March 17  
Brown Bag Lunch & Learn  
12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
Small Business Tax  
Preparation Tips

Make sure you are on track for the 2014 (or 2015!) tax season with this free workshop

FREE for members  
Location: Chamber of  
Commerce office  
Bring your own lunch

**Tuesday, March 18**  
**Business After Hours**  
**5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**




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FREE for Members  
& 1st time guests  
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*Drop in and say hello!*



Haliburton Highlands  
CHAMBER of COMMERCE

# Highlander arts



Photo by Mark Arike

Several cast members of the comedy "You Can't Take It With You" rehearse in Haliburton on March 11.

## Big cast delivers serious comedy

By Mark Arike  
Staff writer

They'll make you laugh and welcome you into their home.

Between April 3 and 5, some familiar faces will star in the local production of "You Can't Take It With You," a comedy originally written by American playwrights Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman.

"It's definitely a comedy with a little love story running through it," said Jack Brezina, who is co-directing the play for Highlands Little Theatre with Curtis Eastmure. "It's mainly about the laughs."

The two-act play follows a family of "urban hippies" (the Sycamores) from the 1930s who just seem to be going through life without a worry in the world. Their daughter, Alicia, who appears to be far more normal than the rest of the family, falls in love with Tony Kirby, her boss's son.

"She has her feet sort of in two worlds," said Brezina. "She's trying to reconcile the life her family leads with the life she is going to end up leading."

The cast is made up of 18 actors, five of whom appear in the second act. Some of those are new to theatre while others haven't been under the spotlight in years.

"That's what little theatre is all about. It gives you an opportunity to step on the stage, and to see if you're still interested and can do it."

This year, Highlands Little Theatre is celebrating 35 years of producing community theatre in the Haliburton Highlands.

Upcoming performances at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion include three 8 p.m. shows between April 3 and 5, and a 2 p.m. matinee on April 5.

Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased at Cranberry Cottage in Haliburton and Pharmasave in Minden.

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# Highlander arts

## Hooks on Curry

Women are becoming increasingly more recognized in the arts thanks in part to Ethel Curry (1902-2000). The private art gallery in Haliburton village is named after her, and recently I talked to owner Wayne Hooks about the artist and the Ethel Curry Gallery.

Hooks started the gallery in 1996 with Jody and Pete Curry who were the principal owners.

"Pete is Ethel's nephew," Hooks explained, and it was his idea to start a gallery with her name on it in order to get Ethel more recognition, because she never was good at self-promotion. We also wanted to provide a space for local artists to sell their work."

"Ethel Curry was a very good friend with fellow artist Doris McCarthy, who had a higher profile in Canada," said Hooks. "They were both among the first female painters in our country who were fairly well-known, but Doris always said that Ethel (a landscape painter who worked in oils), was the more talented."

McCarthy and Curry both studied at the Ontario College of Art in Toronto where they met members of the Group of Seven, and Ethel, who was born in a log cabin in the heart of the Highlands, would bring up members of the group to paint here.

The gallery has done pretty well over the years for the legacy of Ethel Curry,

whose works at one time could be had for a pittance. Nowadays, her oils are going for up to \$15,000. Hooks also disclosed that in 2000, the Art Gallery of Ontario asked him to start a catalogue of Curry's works. Over 100 of her paintings have now been documented, but according to Hooks "there are hundreds still out there."

Wayne Hooks took over sole possession of the gallery in 2008. Unfortunately for him, that year was also the start of the country-wide economic downturn, and the recession impacted on gallery sales.

Unlike public galleries, which can apply for government assistance, or co-op galleries, the Ethel Curry Gallery is private and relies exclusively on the sales of its artworks and gifts. It's been a rough few years for Hooks, but he's hung in there and he says that he can see light at the end of the tunnel.

"All we need is one good year and we're in the black again," he said.

The Ethel Curry Gallery only represents Canadian artists, and, at the present time, has a stable of about 90 artists from all over the country.

"Every year we get 30-40 applications, but if we have openings I can only choose those artists that I figure are going to sell," Hooks said.

Local artists account for about 40 per cent of the gallery's stable of talent, and works by John Lennard, Rod Prouse, Jane Selby,

Susan Hay and others can always be seen.

In this neck of the woods, landscapes and images of wildlife sell the best, "but we do sell some abstracts," Hooks said. Brian Atyeo, who is best known for his impressions of Jazz figures and the Canadian landscape, is by far the best known artist the gallery represents.

"His paintings go for about \$4,000 to \$5,000. Paintings by other artists start at around \$200, and there are lots of nice works under \$1,000. But not everything in the store is expensive," Hooks added. "We have gift items in the \$2-\$5 range and we have handmade jewellery at good prices as well as pottery, fabric art, silk scarves, neck warmers, glassware and First Nation soapstone sculptures."

Hooks himself is an exceptional woodworker and his tables and exquisite jewellery boxes almost demand to be touched. Hooks charges a 45 per cent commission to sell the works of his artists. That might sound like a lot, but some private galleries in other communities are charging up to 60 per cent.

"If I didn't charge what I do we'd be closed," he said.

Perhaps what Hooks is most proud of is the Young Artist Program. For young artists he reduces commissions to 25 per cent.

"Our biggest success is First Nations artist A.J. Van Drie who graduated from the

Haliburton School of the Arts," Hooks revealed. "He's really talented and we've maybe sold 120 of his originals."

Hooks also supports emerging artists such as Terry Wright, whose earth-toned scenes of traditional country life are starting to move well. Wright presently has a show at the gallery.

"We also have teachers and students from the School of the Arts who exhibit here," Hooks said.

Wayne Hooks relies heavily on the summer cottagers and tourists for his sales, and in July and August last year he sent out 80 cheques to artists.

"I think things are finally starting to turn around," he said.

Hooks realizes that, had the Ethel Curry Gallery been located in another community, he might have gone out of business.

"We're very fortunate that we live in one of the best small arts communities in Canada."

You can see paintings by Ethel Curry in the art gallery that bears her name. It's located at 94 Maple Avenue in the village of Haliburton. For more information on the gallery, the artists, and Ethel Curry, visit [www.ethelcurrygallery.com](http://www.ethelcurrygallery.com) or phone 705-457-9687.



By George Farrell

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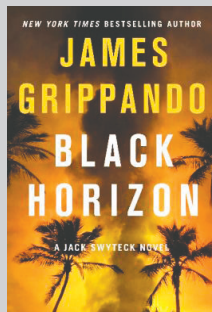
**EMPLOYMENT  
ONTARIO**



# Highlander arts

## Haliburton County's Hot Reads

The following are popular new additions to the Haliburton County Public Library's collection this week.

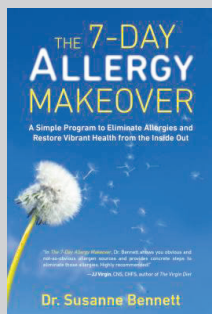


### HCPL's TOP FICTION

1. *Black Horizon* by James Grippando
2. *Kiss and Tell* by Fern Michaels
3. *The Bootlegger: an Isaac Bell adventure* by Clive Cussler

### HCPL's TOP NON-FICTION

1. *The 7-Day Allergy Makeover: a simple program to eliminate allergies and restore vibrant health from the inside out* by Susanne Bennett
2. *Where Nobody Knows Your Name: life in the minor leagues of baseball* by John Feinstein
3. *The Only Guitar Book You'll Ever Need* includes expert advice from Marc Schonbrun and Ernie Jackson



### HCPL's TOP JUNIOR TITLES

1. *Exposure: a virals novel* by Kathy Reichs and Brendan Reichs (YA)
2. *Third Strike* by Heather Brewer (YA)

### AUDIO and VIDEO at HCPL

1. *The Hunger Games: Catching Fire* (DVD)
2. *Talk Like TED: the 9 public speaking secrets of the world's top minds* by Carmine Gallo (Book on CD)

### Library News

Our March Break programming wraps up on Friday, March 14 with Kids Craft and Story Time sessions in Cardiff (10:30 a.m.), Dysart (10:30 p.m.) and Minden (1:30 p.m.). Don't forget to sign up for the Reading and Parenting Program (RAPP). Kits include a book and a craft for the family to enjoy. Call 705-457-2241 to register. Kits will be available starting March 19.



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Friday, March 14 & Saturday, March 15 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

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On Friday, join us for a special children's open stage (1-3 p.m.) – all kids are welcome to show off their talents – and on Saturday, enjoy tunes provided by talented local musicians!

The Haliburton Highlands Museum is located at 66 Museum Road, Haliburton (accessible from Bayshore Road/HWY 118)

Spring hours starting March 1: Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

For more information, call 705-457-2760 or  
e-mail [info@haliburtonhighlandsmuseum.com](mailto:info@haliburtonhighlandsmuseum.com)

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(Refreshments will be available 15 minutes prior to the presentation)

Monday March 24	Huntsville	Holiday Inn - 100 Howland Drive	9:30 am
Wednesday March 26 <td>Peterborough</td> <td>Otonabee Inn - 84 Lansdowne St. E.</td> <td>9:30 am</td>	Peterborough	Otonabee Inn - 84 Lansdowne St. E.	9:30 am

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1) <b>business plan</b>	2) <b>operational planning &amp; implementation</b>	3) <b>environmentally sound budget</b>
4) <b>business model</b>	5) <b>short-term strategic vision</b>	6) <b>operational objectives</b>
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10) <b>financial management</b>	11) <b>customer service strategy</b>	12) <b>HR &amp; management</b>
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# Highlander life

## Dentistry in the Highlands helps out in Honduras

By Sue Tiffin  
Staff writer

Six years ago, Minden dentist Bill Kerr went to Honduras on a one-week dental mission.

Since then, the dentists and hygienists that make up the Dentistry for Honduras Health Outreach team have treated 2,725 children and completed 146 root canals, 564 fillings, 644 extractions, 11 partial dentures, and an orthodontic appliance for a boy whose front teeth caused him to be known locally as 'Rabbit.'

Kerr said the team – which this year included his family, hygienist Lindsay Van Dyk and Dr. Michael Cusato from Dentistry in the Highlands, and Christine Marsh from Dr. Smolen's office – provides dental care to Honduran students from Grades 3-6, some of whom have never seen a dentist before. A translator helps the dentists communicate with the children and the Honduran dental team.

The program was initiated in 2008 through Anne Fowler, a Gooderham resident who spends half the year in Honduras. Amongst



Photo submitted by Bill Kerr

Dr. Bill Kerr and his son, denturist student Steve, show off the results of their dental handiwork while on a mission trip to the Honduras.

her long list of volunteer accomplishments is a healthy living program to teach youth in the impoverished country about proper hygiene and diet. She realized that the kids' tooth decay was so bad, dental care was as important as dental treatment. After she presented Bill and his wife, Lisa, with a

Powerpoint presentation to show why their help was needed, Lisa told Bill, "well, you have to go."

"While there we quickly realized that there was an unbelievable need for urgent and emergency dental treatment," said Kerr, who explained that dentists in Honduras tend to use extraction methods with inadequate freezing, and that because they are hired by a poor government, they are sometimes not paid at all.

Kerr said that the dental team teaches interested Honduran dentists to improve their skills, and that they often leave equipment – like a Dryvac unit donated by an Eagle Lake cottager this year – for later use by Honduran dentists.

The volunteer work is paying off.

"The first time we went, it was mindboggling – every kid needed treatment,"

said Kerr. "This year, we had the biggest pile of "do not need treatment" forms."

Kerr said that a sort of trickle-down effect means that the kids they first treated in Grade 4 have taken better care of their teeth and that in turn, the community has embraced better dental care practices. This results in fewer dental issues in younger children.

"Sometimes you go off somewhere and you wonder if it's making you feel good, rather than making a difference in the community," said Kerr of the program that sparked the idea for the Volunteer Dental Outreach in Haliburton County. "But we can see that in this community, in El Porvenir, it's impacting them. There is change."

Cusato, Kerr's business partner, said that the program is making a difference in part because of aggressive oral hygiene instructions. Residents are told they should avoid pop, a drink that is pervasive in the culture.

This year was the third time Cusato made the trip. He said that once he had experienced dental treatment for poor Honduran children, he wanted to keep helping as long as he was able.

"Many parents wish us God's blessing as they are so appreciative for the care their kids receive," he said. "The cutest thing is to hear a young Spanish-speaking child say 'thank-you' in English. It warms the heart!"

Kerr agreed that he was interested in helping the people in Honduras for as long as he could.

"I don't see myself ever not going," said Kerr. "As long as I can go, I will."

## Girl by the Gull ...because everyone has a story



By Sue Tiffin

For a moment, I thought that writing a bi-weekly column in a small town, about a small town, might be daunting.

How many times have I heard friendly jabs about small-town life and how quiet it can be, and how would I possibly find something of interest to share with readers on a regular basis?

It was last Thursday morning, after a council meeting, when I realized I should probably start thinking about what the space for this column might contain. I also realized that I should probably eat some lunch. After finding that I didn't have my wallet on me, I headed to a café in town that I hoped would feed me in exchange for a promise that I would pay later. Only in a small town, right?

While feeding me more than the average belly should take, the owner of the café began telling me about his travels around the world – how he had finagled his way out of superfluous jail time in Morocco and worked alongside Wolfgang Puck in Los Angeles. His stories were interrupted when his father-in-law came in with a recipe book that had seen better days, and was surviving despite numerous rewrites and plenty of action.

Tales of this storied recipe book were interrupted, too, when the owner of a riverside bed and breakfast in town began talking about the famous people that had stayed at his establishment, including Mike Myers, Goldie Hawn and Kurt Russell, and Angelina Jolie (she washed the dishes after a meal, if you were wondering).

The bed and breakfast owner was interrupted when a couple covered in

paint came in to talk about how they were in the process, clearly, of painting a house with the non-profit Places for People, an organization that helps convert run-down houses into affordable places for those in need. A local fitness instructor was in next to talk about her knowledge of the healing properties of essential oils, which this café happens to offer in the water they serve to customers.

My gluttony for food and interesting information about café-goers was interrupted by a need to be at the Minden Hospital for a meeting.

Most people who visit the emergency section of the building likely aren't particularly interested in looking around, but if they did, they might notice a bulletin board full of a collection of fishing lures, nails, and bits and pieces of tools. The collection serves as a reminder to residents and cottagers alike to enjoy activities involving these materials safely, as they all come from various body parts of people who paid a visit to the hospital to have them removed.

Every piece on the board has a story, as evidenced by the messages written on some pieces, and the thank you notes from kids whose fingers and hands and faces feel much better now.

The thousands of residents of Minden Hills – no matter what their background or their current occupation or their future dreams – have stories, too. As it turns out, one doesn't have to go very far – or even have a penny in their pocket – to find them.



Photo by Matthew Desrosiers

Aaron Walker accepts a \$3,500 donation from Alan Gordon at Haliburton RPM. From left are Robbie Steveson, Charlie Packard, Britney Rock, Bill Skelding, Kasey Bull, Tiffany English, Aaron Walker, Mark Freeman, Willing Brennan, Alan Gordon, and Paul Bellefleur.

## RPM comes through for kids

By Matthew Desrosiers  
Editor

Haliburton County's students will be well-fed this semester thanks in part to a \$3,500 donation from Alan Gordon and Lisa Robbins to the Food for Kids program.

The two are business partners and co-owners of Haliburton RPM and the Kosy Korner.

"The things these guys [Food for Kids volunteers] are doing are awesome,"

Gordon said. According to Food for Kids director Aaron Walker, 1,240 students are fed through the program each day, five days per week. It costs approximately \$400 per day to feed breakfast to all the students. "We are extremely low on funds," Walker said. "This is a huge bonus for us."

The money was raised through a raffle at the Kosy Korner over the Christmas season for a kid's ATV. For more information, visit Food for Kids Haliburton on Facebook.



# March Break 2014



## March Break: a time to be active

By Sue Tiffin  
Staff writer

Children from around the county enjoyed a break from school this week, and they put it to good use.

Daily sporting activities got kids active at the Minden Arena, and the Minden Cultural Centre conducted an arts and outdoors program over the week. The Haliburton Museum invited families to make maple syrup the old-fashioned way, while creative kids at the Art Hive made treasures to take home to their parents. The libraries were open to young readers for craft and story time, and the Kinmount Community Centre hosted Crafts for Kids with the Kinmount artisans.

No matter what kids got involved in, there was no way they could complain to their parents about being bored over the break.

For more pictures taken over the break, check the Behind the Scenes section of the HighlanderOnline.ca.



Photos by Sue Tiffin

Top: Megan Macdonald from Cannington and Emily Austin-Ward from Minden participated in an outdoor scavenger hunt as part of the Minden Cultural Centre's March Break day camp. Middle: Kids of all ages laced up their skates for a game of shinny at the Minden arena during March Break. (From left are Aaron Bellefleur, Tyler Martin, Nigel Smith, Anderson Lippolis, Andrew Ranson, Kadin Card, and Jake Sisson). Left: Seven-year-old Tess Husbands got creative at the Minden Cultural Centre during March Break.



# Highlander sports

## First year wrestler proves mettle at OFSAA

By Matthew Desrosiers  
Editor

It was his first time on the big stage, but Matthew Pheaton rose to meet the occasion.

"It shocked me a little bit when I walked into the arena, how big it was and how many people were there," he said. "The skill level was way higher than my experience, because it was my first year doing it."

Pheaton, a Grade 10 student at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School (HHSS), represented his school and the Highlands at the OFSAA wrestling championships in Brampton from March 4 to 6. He competed in the 51-kilo weight class.

"I feel I did my best," he said. "I wish I could have done better. I'm definitely coming back next year."

Although he was eliminated after the first day of competition, Pheaton overcame his anxiety to win his very first match before dropping two in a row.

"Just to win a match in the Ontario's is something that is awesome to me," he said.

Pheaton said he was nervous before that first match, but when he saw his opponent was fighting nerves as well, the young wrestler knew he had a chance.

"As soon as I walked onto the mat, [I said to myself] 'this is serious. I need to do what I have to do to win,'" he said. "I used his



Photo by Cheryl McCombe

Matthew Pheaton works for the pin against one of his opponents at the OFSAA championships from March 4 to 6.

nervous energy to make my game stronger."

You might think the win would be Pheaton's highlight of the tournament, but he said that moment actually came during his last match, a loss, against a Grade 12 opponent.

"In the first 10 seconds I got a double-leg shot to a pin, almost," he said. "He countered

that. When he pinned me at the end of the match, he told me it was one of the best double-leg shots he'd ever seen."

His results at OFSAA showed Pheaton, a first-year wrestler, that he belonged in the sport.

"I'm so new, but I can compete at such

a high level," he said. "This year was all a learning experience for me. Now I know what it's like, so next year I'll be less nervous [and] hopefully I'll do a little better."

During the off-season, Pheaton said he plans to work with a personal trainer to build his strength and endurance.

## Bantam As play finals this weekend

By Sue Tiffin  
Staff writer

The Highland Storm Smolen Dentistry Bantam As are headed to the provincial finals after a series win against Listowel in the semis.

The Storm traded wins and losses with the Listowel team, losing their second and fourth games, but winning their first, third, and fifth games. The team won 5-3 on Friday night in Minden, and 5-2 on Sunday afternoon in Minden, winning the series 3-2 and moving them on to the all-Ontario finals.

"I think they're a little nervous going in," said assistant coach Chad Burden. "Their coach is. But the team is more nervous."

Burden said the team worked together well

and had bonded over the year.

"We've got a good team," he said. "They're positive and a tight group. They all fend for each other."

Tammy Smith, mom of right wing Owen, said that it was very exciting for the team to win the semi-finals. They had a successful season that saw them play over 50 games with only five losses.

"I think the boys are very excited," she said. "They are a great group and they gel really well together. It was stressful and hard to watch at times. We all know what they are capable of doing, and when it isn't going their way, it's hard."

The Highland Storm Bantam As will play the Mt. Brydges Bulldogs this weekend in the finals.



Photo by Sue Tiffin

The Highland Storm Bantam As are riding high after a series victory over Listowel.

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# Highlander sports

## Pink the Rink gives colour to hockey hair

By Sue Tiffin  
Staff writer

When Nigel Smith went to school with pink hair, his friends had a hard time taking him seriously.

But he didn't suffer alone.

Ryan Hall's friends told him his mullet-styled hair looked funky.

The two minor hockey players, along with the rest of their team, joined the Hockey Hair For Breast Cancer "Pink the Rink" campaign. Their uniquely styled hair represents their concern for breast cancer and

the need to raise more awareness.

"A lot of people are asking why we did it," said Smith, whose teammates have dyed their hair, wrapped their sticks with pink tape, and worn pink laces in their skates or as belts on their hockey pants. "They [don't know] that there's a reason for it."

Highland Storm assistant coach Darnell Gilbert said he encouraged his team to get involved in the Ontario Minor Hockey Association's breast cancer awareness campaign because he knew the disease was familiar to some of his players.

"I know my son has family that has been

affected by breast cancer and one lad on our team has a family member with it right now," said Gilbert.

That player is Hall, who is listed on the campaign website as being the second top fundraiser in the entire campaign with \$700 raised online. His team, the Highland Storm Pee wee A, joined with the Atom A team to fundraise together. They sit third in group fundraising, having raised almost \$2,000 online.

"My aunt has breast cancer so it just seems like a good thing to do," said Hall.

The 11-year-old Grade 6 student said his

aunt thinks his support is awesome, and he doesn't mind the reaction he gets about his hair while at school.

"It's supposed to be like that," he said of his mullet. "I did it for a good reason."

Gilbert said the group has collected donations in person and that those amounts aren't reflected in the online tally. He said the teams would keep their hairstyles until the end of playoffs, but several of the kids claim they like their hair the way it is now.

"I really like it," said Smith of his lighter pink shade. "It kind of looks cool and a lot of people are doing it."

## Yukon Quest a demanding challenge for DeBruin

By Mark Arike  
Staff writer

Almost a month later, Hank DeBruin is still recovering from the 1,000-mile Yukon Quest International Sled Dog Race.

"It takes five or six weeks to get over a race like that," said DeBruin in a recent interview.

"You ride a high and then all of a sudden you come down."

On Feb. 14, DeBruin and his team of purebred Siberian huskies crossed the finish line of the grueling race, coming in eighth place with a race time of 12 days, 18 hours. The 29th annual event saw DeBruin travel from Whitehorse, Yukon to Fairbanks, Alaska.

The Haliburton musher, who owns Winterdance Dogsled Tours with his wife Tanya McCready, came last in the 2011 race.

DeBruin was sleep deprived, running on an average of two to three hours of sleep per night for the duration of the race.

"You're totally in a sleep deprived high, is what you are," he said.

A total of 18 teams entered the race, but only 11 managed to finish. The seven mushers who didn't make it were either withdrawn or scratched.

DeBruin's goal was to finish in 11 days, however, the warm conditions made it impossible for him to do so.

"We had to recover through the heat, and once we got through that we started moving."

The first 70 miles of the race was "hard-packed trails," he explained, but after that the



Photo by Mark Arike

Local musher Hank DeBruin and wife Tanya McCready pet Maverick, one of their lead dogs in the recent 1,000-mile Yukon Quest race.

team faced glare ice, rocks and crystallized snow.

"When you stepped on the snow, it literally felt like you were stepping on glass," said McCready, who joined the team as a handler.

"That's how hard the ice layer was, which is so hard on dogs."

Three of the dogs had to be pulled out of the race in the first 200 miles.

The Quest was both physically and mentally

demanding, and not one for the faint of heart.

"When you start running up a river on glare ice, where you can hardly stand up let alone try to get a team up and there's a 60 km/h headwind, if you lose your footing the wind just blows you down the river," he said.

DeBruin's love and respect for his dogs is apparent. It's one of the reasons he got into the sport in the first place.

"These dogs are amazing. What they're capable of doing is unbelievable. They're classified as the top athlete in the world."

The rather quiet, media-shy musher simply considers himself the coach of the team.

"Ask me to run 1,000 miles and I'll say no way," he joked.

DeBruin also credits his support team for getting him through the race.

"It takes so much time to get a team ready. It's five months of running and running and running."

In addition to this long-distance run, DeBruin participated in the Iditarod in 2010 and 2012. He and McCready just can't seem to get enough. They have decided to enter the Taiga 200-kilometre race in Labrador next week.

The pair would like to thank the community and everyone else who has supported their dream over the years.

"That's what makes it a much bigger event than if it just was [Hank and I] and 14 dogs going," said McCready. "There are so many people who are involved."

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# Highlander sports

## Highland Storm Hockey

### Minden CARQUEST Midget B Girls

Submitted by Dan Marsden

The Highland Storm Minden CARQUEST Midget B girls travelled to Lakefield Wednesday night to take on the Ennismore Eagles in Game 3 of their point series.

With a 0-0 tie and 1-0 loss, the Storm girls needed to steal the game and then win in overtime or a shootout. Having a short bench of nine players due to injuries suffered in winning a high school COSSA silver medal in Peterborough on Monday, the Storm committed to a game plan to challenge the strong Eagle team.

After a scoreless first period, Ennismore jumped out to a 2-0 lead midway through the second period. Kenndal Marsden got the Storm into the game off a nice rush and wrister to get close at 2-1. The

Eagles' strong three-line deep squad proved too much to contain and defeated the Storm to get five points and win the series.

A great series, Storm girls, forcing the number one seed to step up. This was the last game of an awesome year girls, with our highlight of winning the Huntsville Tourney. The coaching staff would like to thank our sponsor, and all our parents and players (Maddie Allore, Maddie Billings, Erica Carmount, Sydney Feir, Cassidy Garbutt, Erin Little, Jamie Little, Kelsey Maracle, Connor Marsden, Kenndal Marsden, Alicia McLean, and Brynn Meyers) for a wonderful season.

It is early yet girls, but thinking ahead, get ready for next year and our focus for improvements as a last celebration for Storm girls hockey and our goal of returning to Provincial Championship weekend. Thanks again girls for all your efforts.

## Atom As lose three straight

By Sue Tiffin  
Staff writer

The Highland Storm Atom As were on the ice in Minden this weekend for the Ontario Minor Hockey Association semi-finals.

The team, coached by Tim Keefer, lost three straight semi-final games to the Listowel team. The team was discouraged in the change room after their 5-2 loss on March 7, but Keefer reminded them of their great season.

"There wasn't a dry eye in here," said Keefer. "But the boys battled hard. The Listowel team was just fast and strong."

Keefer planned to celebrate a year that he said was excellent with the team at the Pepper Mill restaurant.

"We had an amazing group of parents that have done everything as team," he



Photo by Sue Tiffin  
The Storm Atom A players push for the win.

said. "And the boys have really grown in practices."

"They never gave up," he said, "That was all I asked."

## Peewee team grows as a unit

By Mark Arike  
Staff writer

Despite having their season come to an end in the semi-finals against the Penetanguishene Flames, the head coach of the Highland Storm's Peewee A team is proud of what his players have been able to accomplish.

"They learned this year not to quit," said Jason Morissette.

The team of 11 and 12-year-olds lost 4-1 against the Flames on March 7 at the A.J. LaRue Arena in Haliburton. The following day, they were eliminated from the playoffs in Penetanguishene in a 2-1 loss.

Losing isn't fun for anyone, but Morissette said the team knew they had a successful season.

"It wasn't like an expectation at the start of the year that we're going to shoot for the finals of the all-Ontario [championships]," he said. "It was more about getting them better – getting their team skills better, getting them to

learn to play hockey as a team."

The Storm faced 20 minutes of penalties at home and 20 minutes in their away game on Saturday.

"In the series, Penetanguishene scored 11 goals on us. Eleven were on the power play," he said.

"I think if we had more time to play them five-on-five, we had a chance."

Morissette isn't afraid to admit that the Storm's opponents had "an excellent power play" and that they played solid hockey.

"They had a good team. They're well-coached and competitive."

Morissette thanked his fellow coaches, team manager and parents for their support during the past season.

"It's a really positive thing," he said, adding that this year will go down in Highland Storm history, especially with the bantam team making it to the finals.

The Flames will take on the Petrolia Oilers in the finals.



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HALIBURTON COUNTY'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

TheHighlander

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Fast Lane Bowling Scores						
<b>Monday afternoon, March 3 Men</b> High average: Ken Thompson – 207 High single: John Whitty – 229 High single handicap: Marty Schuster – 270 High triple: John Whitty – 621 High triple handicap: John Whitty – 736 <b>Women</b> High average: Chris Cote – 193 High single: Solveg Stout – 183 High single handicap: Solveg Stout – 262 High triple: Solveg Stout	– 469 High triple handicap: Solveg Stout – 706	– 233 High single handicap: Amber Card – 277 High triple: Cathy Snell – 615 High triple handicap: Amber Card – 741	<b>Women</b> High average: Chris Cote – 189 High single: Rae Shepherd – 224 High single handicap: Tina Hadley – 281 High triple: Rossmary Blight – 526 High triple handicap: Rossmary Blight – 734	Skylar Pratt – 153	Wagg – 178 High single: Edith Alzner – 204 High single handicap: Edith Alzner – 259 High triple: Edith Alzner – 510 High triple handicap: Glady Routcliffe – 666	High triple handicap: John Whitty – 703 <b>Women</b> High average: Chris Cote – 191 High single: Beverly Alexander – 194 High single handicap: Beverly Alexander – 252 High triple: Beverly Alexander – 534 High triple handicap: Beverly Alexander – 702
	<b>Monday night, March 3 Men</b> High average: Rick West – 208 High single: Rick West – 256 High single handicap: Rick Wilson – 273 High triple: Rick West – 721 High triple handicap: Rick West – 766 <b>Women</b> High average: Cathy Snell – 220 High single: Amber Card	<b>Tuesday afternoon, March 4 Men</b> High average: Claude Cote – 203 High single: Ken Thompson – 269 High single handicap: Dennis Middelhurst – 323 High triple: Ken Thompson – 726 High triple handicap: Ken Thompson – 786	<b>Wednesday Special Olympics, Feb. 26 Men</b> Brandon Bailey – 185 Ross Anderson – 168 Robert Boccitto – 141 <b>Women</b> Lisa Burk – 180 Buddy Plouffe – 161	<b>Wednesday corporate league, Feb. 26</b> Connor – 777	<b>Friday afternoon, March 7 Men</b> High average: Claude Cote – 208 High single: Ken Thompson – 234 High single handicap: Doug Cameron – 259 High triple: John Whitty – 610	<b>Saturday youth league, March 8</b> Collin Thorpe – 214 Kadin Card – 279 Wyatt Raposo – 149 Erynn Card – 95
				<b>Thursday afternoon, Feb. 27 Men</b> High average: Gerry Wagg – 176 High single: John Bell – 204 High single handicap: John Bell – 253 High triple: John Bell – 533 High triple flat: John Bell – 680 <b>Women</b> High average: Gloria		



# Junior highlanders



Photos by Sue Tiffin  
Above: Grade 5 friends Devyn Garbutt, left, and Aidan McAlister hang out during the recent OPP versus ASES game. Right: A large crowd of children and adults enjoys the hockey action at the Minden arena on March 6.

## Puck drops between OPP and students

By Mark Arike  
Staff writer

Members of the Haliburton Highlands OPP traded in their police uniforms on Feb. 27 and March 6 for sticks, helmets, and hockey jerseys.  
The current officers, who were joined by members of the auxiliary force and retirees, laced up their skates to take on Grade 8 students from J.D. Hodgson Elementary School (JDH) and Archie Stouffer Elementary School (ASES) in an

annual tradition.  
“It was lots of fun for the students, staff, and officers,” said OPP Const. Paul Potter. “We all look forward to the event.”  
In their first matchup against JDH, the two-period game ended in a 7-7 tie. ASES students, however, defeated the OPP 10-6 in three periods of play.  
The annual event is held to provide spectators some entertaining hockey action and to build positive relationships between the students and officers, Potter said.  
After both games, students were given

a souvenir water bottle and OPP puck, both of which were donated by Minden Canadian Tire and County Sign & Display.  
Officers have been squaring off against students from schools in the Trillium Lakelands District School Board (TLDSB) for nearly 20 years.  
The OPP will face Wilberforce Elementary School students in their final game on March 28 from 2-3 p.m. at the Keith Tallman Memorial Arena in Wilberforce.  
The action is free-of-charge to spectators.



Photo by Matthew Desrosiers

## Wilberforce Curling Club engages youth with bonspiel

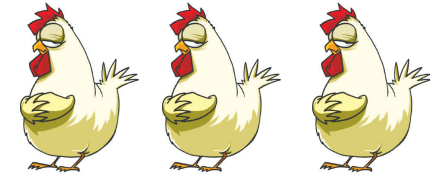
The Wilberforce Curling Club hosted its child & one bonspiel on March 8. Five rinks participated. Each included two children and two adults. Pictured above, Brenda Berning (left) presents Tammy Vaughan with a \$250 donation from the Wilberforce Scotiabank branch.

McGillion's  
movies  
12 Years  
a Slave

  
By Austin  
McGillion

**Director:** Steve McQueen  
**Cast:** Brad Pitt, Lupita Nyong'o, Michael Fassbender  
The movie *12 Years a Slave* is a true story, based on the book by the same name written by Solomon Northup.  
At this year's Oscars, the film won three academy awards, including best picture, best supporting actress (Lupita Nyong'o), and best adapted screenplay. It also achieved a Golden Globe award for best motion picture drama.  
Director Steve McQueen doesn't pull punches as he draws the viewer back in time to witness slavery in gruesome detail. The movie is rated 14A due to graphic content.  
With the help of Hans Zimmer's amazing score, *12 Years a Slave* produces a myriad of emotions – happiness, outrage, anger, grief, and hope. I was appalled and disgusted that anyone could be so cruel to another human being just because of how they looked and talked.  
The movie takes place in Louisiana, from 1841-1853, showcasing its beautiful marshes, plains and forested areas. It has excellent scenic shots, including the great bald cypress trees covered in Spanish moss, weeping willows, and colourful bayous – a vivid contrast to the poor slaves bunched together in dilapidated shacks. The freemen lived in big mansions, ate good food, and had good clothing, whereas the workers had meager rations, wore rags, and were unjustly punished.

Chiwetel Ejiofor is an accomplished actor and portrays Solomon Northup very convincingly. “Patsy,” played by Lupita Nyong'o, will have you rising from your chair to defend her and crying over the impossibility of her situation.  
Brad Pitt, in his cameo performance, has the wrong accent for a Canadian, but his heart is in the right place.  
If you are an American history fan and are engaged by real life drama, this is a movie you shouldn't miss. Although there is some graphic content, it is well worth viewing if you can stomach it.  
Hats off to producers Brad Pitt, Dede Gardner, and Steve McQueen. It's a great movie. I give it three out of three chickens.





# Highlander classifieds

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Forms will be available at registration and can also be downloaded from halsoccer.org (it will save you time if you bring them already completed to registration)  
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# Highlander classifieds

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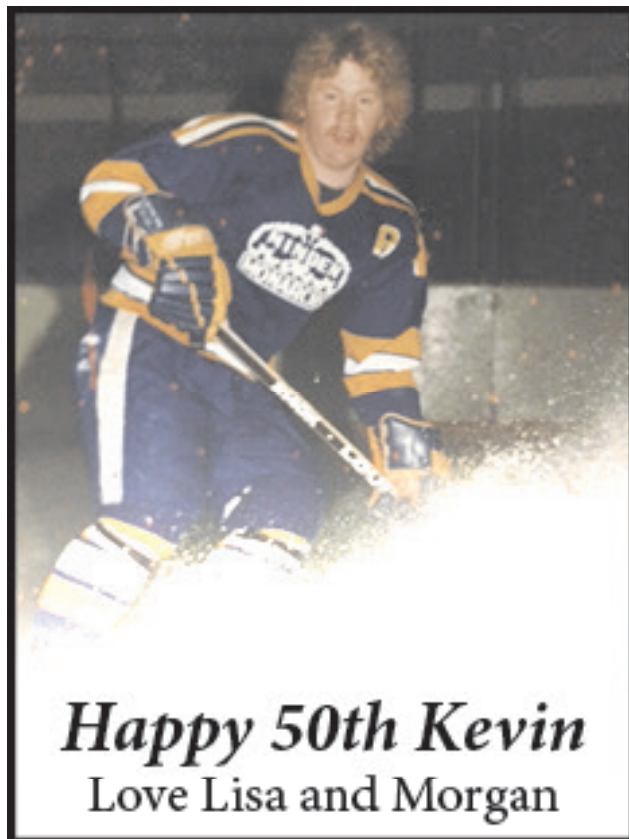
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## OBITUARIES

### GORDON JONES December 23, 1918 – March 3, 2014

**JONES, Gordon Milton** - formerly of Goodwood and Haliburton passed away at age 95 on Monday, March 3, 2014 at Highland Wood, Haliburton. He was a faithful husband to Mae (Faulkner) for 67 years caring for her in sickness and health. Loving father to Marilyn (Jim) Fader and Betty (Tom) Russell. He is survived by 4 grandchildren: Steve (Heather) Jackson, Sue (Dave) Lotton, Jeff (Suzanne) Smith and Jason (Shannon) Smith as well as 8 great grandchildren: Nick and Julia Jackson, Keegan and Kaleb Smith, Cooper and Tyson Lotton, Callaway and Jack Smith. He was predeceased by parents, George and Emma (Giebner) Jones, brothers Clarence, Stanley, Otto and sister, Mary (Hockley). Born December 23, 1918 he farmed for many years on the 4th Concession, Goodwood and enjoyed retirement in Haliburton. Gord was a faithful member of Goodwood and Haliburton Baptist Churches. Our father was a kind, honest and gentle man - such a wonderful example of a life lived well. Funeral arrangements were with Low and Low Funeral Home, Uxbridge on Thursday, March 6, 2014. Spring internment. In memory of Gordon, a donation to either the Uxbridge Hospital Foundation or the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation would be appreciated by the family.



### Grenville Draper (Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

Peacefully at Highland Wood on Thursday evening, March 6, 2014 at the age of 94. Beloved husband of the late Verna Draper (nee Zeller). Loving father of Marie (Douglas Ecklund) of Woodville, Lorraine of Haliburton, Albert (Susan) of Ailsa Craig, Nelda (Andrew Sharpless) of King City and Ron (Karen) of Haliburton. Fondly remembered by his grandchildren Andrew, Michael, David, Jacob, Scott, Amanda, Jessica, Ryan, Christopher and by his great grandchildren Chelsea, Deanna, Erik, Ian, Foster, Emily, Owen, Anderson, Rhyserson and Chloe. Predeceased by his brothers Fred and Walter. Grenville served overseas during WWII, was a former employee of General Motors, and an active member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #129. He enjoyed his yard work, workshop and spending time with his family.

#### Celebration Of Life & Reception

As expressions of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation or the Royal Canadian Legion Poppy Fund would be appreciated by the family. A Celebration of Life will take place at a later date. Interment Ingoldsby Cemetery in the Spring. Arrangements entrusted to HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy #118, Haliburton, Ontario 705-457-9209.



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## THE TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN HILLS IN SEASON. EVERY SEASON

### NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills proposes to consider, and if deemed advisable, to pass at its regular meeting to be held in the Municipal Council Chambers at 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario, on Thursday, March 27th, 2014 at the hour of 10:00 a.m., by-laws to stop up, close and convey those parcels of land more particularly described as follows:

1. File No. SRA-13-07  
Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Twelve Mile Lake, lying in front of Lot 13, Concession 13, geographic Township of Minden, designated as Part 1, on a Plan of Survey 19R-9600, registered February 3, 2014.
2. File No. SRA-13-16  
Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Salemo Lake, lying in front of Lot 32, Concession 4, geographic Township of Snowdon, designated as Part 2, on a Plan of Survey 19R-8783, registered May 8, 2008.
3. File No. SRA-12-05  
Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Horseshoe Lake, lying in front of Lot 13, Concession 6, geographic Township of Minden, designated as Parts 6 and 7, on a Plan of Survey 19R-9536, registered August 21, 2013.

The above noted plans of survey are available for inspection in the Building and Planning Department located at 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario during regular office hours.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that before passing the said by-laws at the meeting to be held at the time and place noted above, the Council shall then and there, hear in person or by his or her counsel, solicitor, or agent, any person who claims that his or her land will be prejudicially affected by the said by-laws and who applies to be heard.

DATED AT THE Township of Minden Hills, this 13th day of March, 2014.

Adam King, M.R.M.  
Planning Administrator



# Highlander events

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## ACROSS

1. Destiny
5. Fable writer
10. Whole bunch
14. Plow-pulling animals
15. Sleep noise
16. Do roadwork
17. French female
18. Slept through winter
20. Witness
21. Wooden fasteners
22. Frosting
23. Light bender
25. Driver's \_\_\_\_\_
27. Patriot \_\_\_\_\_ Allen
29. Rocker \_\_\_\_\_ Cooper
31. Cavern
33. GI's hangout
34. Frolic
38. Heredity carrier
39. TV Host \_\_\_\_\_ O'Brien
41. Malevolent
42. Poppy or sesame
43. London's country (abbr.)
44. Unruffled
46. Fastened shoestrings
48. "West Side Story" character
49. Unspecified person
53. Downpours
55. Dazzling
56. Isn't, incorrectly
57. Pull behind
60. Unsettled
63. Story
64. Be abundant
65. Loop of rope
66. Ladder rung
67. Whirlpool
68. Mom's sisters
69. Annoying one

## DOWN

1. Rivals
2. Wheel shaft

## DOWN

3. Alexander Graham Bell's invention
4. Compass pt.
5. Fire remains
6. Mystery
7. Weeps
8. Lode yield
9. Each
10. \_\_\_\_\_ shuttle
11. Caesar's language
12. Levels
13. Pie slice
19. Friendly
21. Half quart
24. Judged
25. "Mona \_\_\_\_\_"
26. Sacred images
27. Omelet items
28. Forest plant
30. Forward thrust
32. Atlantic or Pacific
34. Broadcasted again
35. Exaggerate
36. Skirt length
37. Entreaty
40. "\_\_\_\_\_ upon a time..."
45. Discharge
46. Ship's diaries
47. Least rainy
49. Fry lightly
50. Had
51. Boggled down
52. Opponent
54. Peruvian range
56. English river
58. Spanish cheers
59. Cried
61. "Snakes \_\_\_\_\_ Plane" (2 wds.)
62. Baseball's \_\_\_\_\_ Gehrig
63. Recipe abbr.

## MARCH 2014 EVENTS

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<b>Parent &amp; Child Clay Garden Stakes</b> – The Art Hive, 9:30-noon www.thearthive.com  <b>March Break Day Camp</b> – MH Cultural Centre 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., \$10/day 705-286-3763  <b>Maple Fest!</b> Haliburton Museum	<b>Felted Treasure Pouch</b> – The Art Hive, 9:30-noon www.thearthive.com  <b>March Break Day Camp</b> – MH Cultural Centre 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., \$10/day 705-286-3763  <b>Maple Fest!</b> Haliburton Museum	<b>In Search of the Elusive Wolf</b> – Haliburton Forest, 9 a.m. one-day snowshoe adventure www.haliburtonforest.com  <b>Wild Game Dinner</b> , Haliburton Legion 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.	<b>Country music jamboree</b> – S.G. Nesbitt Arena, 1-5 p.m.  <b>Haliburton Legion Ladies Auxiliary breakfast</b> – Haliburton Legion, 9:30-1 p.m.
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
<b>Haliburton Legion Ladies Auxiliary St. Patrick's Day lunch</b> , 11:30-1 p.m.  <b>Baby massage</b> , Minden OEYC 10 a.m., 705-286-1770	<b>Food Handler Course</b> – Health Unit office (191 Highland St, unit 301), 9-4 p.m. 705-457-1391.  <b>Volunteer income tax program</b> – Haliburton Legion, 9:30-2 p.m. Every Tuesday until April 22.	<b>Food Handler Course continues</b> - Health Unit office (191 Highland St, unit 301), 9-4 p.m. 705-457-1391.  <b>Volunteer income tax program</b> – Wilberforce Legion, 2-3:20 p.m. Every Wednesday until April 23.	
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
	<b>Highland Trio</b> - 1:00 - 5:00 p.m., Minden Legion Free, donation for the band appreciated 705-286-4541  <b>Spring Splash</b> - Ski/snowboard over open water, Sir Sams, 705-754-2298	<b>Haliburton Legion Ladies Auxiliary breakfast</b> , 9:30-1 p.m.	<b>Baby massage</b> , Minden OEYC 10 a.m., 705-286-1770
WHAT'S GOING ON AT YOUR LEGION MAR 13 - MAR 19, 2014			
<b>Haliburton Branch (705-457-2571)</b> General meeting, 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Ladies Auxiliary, last Thursday, 1 p.m. Meat draw, Friday, 4:30-6:30 p.m. \$2/draw. 50/50 draw, Saturday, 4 p.m. Breakfast, 2nd and 4th Sunday, 9:30-1 p.m. Bid Euchre, Wednesday, 1 p.m. Bingo, Wednesday, 7 p.m.	<b>Minden Branch (705-286-4541)</b> Lunch menu, Monday – Friday, 12-2 p.m. Cribbage, Saturday, 1-3 p.m. Seniors "B-d" Euchre, Tuesday, 1 p.m. Meat Draw, Wednesday, lunchtime. Ladies darts, Thursday, 1 p.m. Euchre, Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Fish/Wings & Chips, Friday, 5-7 p.m. Mixed darts, Friday, 7:30 p.m.	<b>Wilberforce Branch (705-448-2221)</b> Pool, Friday, 1:30 p.m. Jam session, Friday, 7 p.m. Everyone welcome! Meat draw, Saturday, 2 p.m. St. Patrick's Day Dance, Saturday, 9 p.m. to close. Bid euchre, Monday, 7 p.m. Fun darts, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.	

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# Highlander environment

## Land Trust taps experience with new director

By Matthew Desrosiers  
Editor

The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust has hired its first executive director.

Larry O'Connor has been coming up to the Highlands for almost 40 years, the last 15 of which were spent on 12-Mile Lake at his summer home. He moved here full-time a year-and-a-half ago.

O'Connor is the past chair of the Kawartha Region Conservation Authority, a former parliamentary assistant to the Ontario Minister of the Environment, was a member of the Ontario Legislative Assembly, and former mayor of the Township of Brock.

"I always had an interest in what's happening in the community," he said. "It's partly my interest that got me into politics, and the community engagement piece I think is the most important piece of it."

He said working for the Land Trust was an easy choice.

"When I came here, I saw this as a perfect fit. Hopefully we can engage the community a little bit more and reinvigorate the membership list."

O'Connor always took a keen interest in the environment.

"I am Métis," he said. "I think my love for the land and the environment is almost engrained in me."

In Brock, O'Connor spent time as chair

of the planning committee.

"You start to appreciate the environment around us and where we live," he said. "We have the Land Trust that is carrying out some of the mandate of a conservation authority. We've got a good organization that has secured some land to protect it for future generations, and we need to grow that."

However, before any more land can be acquired, O'Connor said it's important to first grow the organization.

"I'm amazed at what's been accomplished," he said. "We have over 700 acres, identified two dozen species at risk. They've [the Land Trust] done an incredible amount of work."

In order to grow,

*We have over 700 acres, identified two dozen species at risk. They've [the Land Trust] done an incredible amount of work.*

**Larry O'Connor**  
executive director  
Haliburton Highlands Land Trust

O'Connor said he will utilize social media and get out into the community to engage with members and potential new members.

"There seems to be a number of organizations here [that are] like minded, so we can build on any synergies we can have with them as well."

The controversial Armatec proposal has people thinking about the importance of land conservation, he said.

"There is a huge value to our community to have organization such as the Land Trust. We can safeguard our land for future generations."

## For a limited time: native plants at reasonable prices

By Matthew Desrosiers  
Editor

The annual native tree and plant sale has returned after a year's hiatus.

The Haliburton Stewardship Council, along with the Friends of Ecological Environmental Learning (FEEL), have re-launched their sale to include trees, shrubs, and perennials, said Clara Steele, board member for both organizations.

"We offer [the sale] every spring to promote good land stewardship," she said.

Previous sales were done with pen and paper, but this year, they've opted for an on-line store where thousands of trees and

plants will be available. They're separated into two categories, upland and shoreline.

"It's your moist habitat versus your dry, upland habitat."

The sale began on March 1 and will end on April 1. Although it's a short sale this year, Steele said next year's will be much longer.

The plants are on sale for prices between \$2 and \$6, although bundles of 25 plants are available. Shoppers will find all the information they'll need to properly plant and care for their new greenery on the website.

"The reason we went with native species is just that they're better suited to the area.

They can handle our climate, our soils. They're just a little harder than getting some of the non-native ones."

Planting the trees and shrubs will help naturalized your landscape, she said. For example, plants from the shoreline category will actually help hold shorelines in tact with their roots.

"It's a great alternative to using break walls and things like that."

The plants will be available to pick up at The Beer Store in Haliburton in May. Customers will be contacted when their plants are available for pick up.

For more information, or to make a purchase, visit [haliburtonstewardship.ca](http://haliburtonstewardship.ca).

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TUESDAY  
MARCH 18



Highlander TV  
VIDEO - County Hot Seat -  
Harvey Bates - pool committee

ON NOW!



VIDEO - Sports - OPP vs ASES  
hockey game

MONDAY  
MARCH 17



VIDEO - County Hot Seat - Amanda  
Ranson - #myhaliburtonhighlands

THURSDAY  
MARCH 13



VIDEO - Eye On The Street - What are  
you doing for the March Break?

FRIDAY  
MARCH 14



VIDEO - Maplefest - A look at the  
history of maple syrup



# Highlander events

**BLUES PIANO LEGEND**  
**DAVID VEST** ALL STAR BAND  
 SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2014 8:30

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Photos by Sue Tiffin

Left: Seven-year-old Michael Loucks from Owen Sound (right), and his cousin, eight-year-old Tristan Maxwell from Wasaga Beach, make sure the Haliburton Museum's sap is flowing freely. "Syrup comes from a maple tree," said Loucks with great conviction. Right: Tim Hagarty, chair of the museum advisory committee, was on site to show visitors to Maplefest the process of making maple syrup.

## Mysteries of maple syrup revealed

By Sue Tiffin  
 Staff writer

On March 10, the first day of Maplefest, there was a steady stream of visitors to the maple syrup history demonstration behind the Haliburton Museum.

There wasn't, however, a steady stream of sap.

"The sap hasn't been as prolific," said museum curator Steve Hill. "We know it's going to run, but it's not running the way we need it to just yet."

Despite the slow drip of sap, Hill and museum advisory committee chair Tim Hagarty were busy showing the numerous locals and tourists how sap was turned into syrup a century ago.

"That's just the way it would have been done 100 years ago," said Hagarty, who noted that the pot being used to boil the sap into syrup was about 100 years old. Hagarty told visitors that he wonders what would cause people to initiate the process in the first place.

"Maplefest is a great success and it's fun to do," he said of the annual maple syrup tours, which usually see more than 400 people trek to the forest at the back of the Haliburton Museum, where 26 trees are tapped. "It's a way of bringing the museum back to life and highlights the fact that we have a museum here."

While Hill showed visitors how to collect the sap from the buckets where it dripped from trees, Hagarty showed how the sap was boiled down to become maple syrup. Forty cups of sap, after being boiled down, produced only about one cup of maple syrup.

Hill said the first day of Maplefest generally does not produce a lot of syrup, but that didn't stop visitors to the museum from tasting what was available.

Seven-year-old Russell resident Jackson Boehm was visiting Haliburton with his family for March Break, and tried a taste of the syrup after it had been cooled down in the snow.

"It wasn't too sweet," he said. "It tasted like plain old water with a bit of sugar and salt."

Boehm's dad Mike said his family enjoyed Maplefest because they were looking for activities to do while cottaging in the area.

Minden resident Elaine Loucks brought her son and grandkids to the museum, something that she said they have done throughout the years.

"It's good for them," she said of experiencing Maplefest with her grandkids. "We did it with our own kids, too."

Glenn Burkett from Toronto was also visiting the museum with family for something to do during March Break.

"We came here just to have a little bit of fun," he said. "It's a great day – you have to enjoy it."

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4:00 pm – BURT'S BUZZ

7:30 pm – WATERMARK

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# What's on



File photo

Haliburton Highlands Health Services.

## What you need to know about health care

By **Matthew Desrosiers**  
Editor

Navigating the health care system can be daunting.

Whether you've taken ill, or someone you're caring for has medical problems, it's not always easy to know where to go or how to access services.

That's why Haliburton County's health care providers are giving a free-to-attend education talk on how to access those services and navigate the system.

"We find, here at Community Care, that we get a lot of calls from people not knowing where to get services, what to do, or how to access them," said Brigitte Gebauer, volunteer coordinator.

Presenters include Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS), the Family Health Team, the Central East CCAC, Community Care, and long-term care facilities. Each will receive 15 minutes to talk.

Gebauer is one of the organizers for the talk – part of the Need to Know education series – along with Marilyn Rydberg, manager of hospice services with SIRCH.

"There are a lot of myths about long-term care, around how much it costs and what happens when you get there," said Rydberg. "So we're hoping to allay some of those things."

Gebauer said the talk is good for volunteers, service providers, caregivers, family members, and anyone in the community who wants to know more about what services are available in the county.

Rydberg said a lack of knowledge can sometimes be a barrier for people seeking the help they need.

Gebauer said as more people learn the ins and outs of the programs, it will help take some of the stress off the health care system.

"A lot of people don't know where to start. For a lot of people, the hospital is the entry point into the system. But if you have insight you might forego the hospital because you got the care in your home ahead of time."

Rydberg added that in many cases, early referral leads to improved results when seeking help.

The talk is being held on March 18, at 10 a.m. at the Lions Club in Minden, and again that day at the Lloyd Watson Centre at 2:30 p.m. in Wilberforce. Admittance is by donation. Coffee and snacks will be provided.

### HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS PERFORMING ARTS SOCIETY

2014 Annual General Meeting  
Tuesday, March 25, 2014  
4:00 pm

*Northern Lights  
Performing Arts Pavilion*

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